

Work Session
May 4, 2014

Mayor Grenier called the Work Session to order at approximately 6:30 p.m. in the Executive Council Chambers of City Hall. Present were Councilors: Remillard, Otis, Morgan Allain, Gentili, Higbee, Rozek, Nelson and Theberge. Also present: City Manager James Wheeler, Community Development Director Pam Laflamme, Housing Coordinator Linda White, Finance Director Patty Chase, Public Works Director Michael Perreault, Health/Welfare Director Angela Martin-Giroux and Berlin Daily Sun Editor Barbara Tetreault Christopher Crooker.

Tax Deeded Properties.

Finance Director Patty Chase informed Council about the following tax deeded properties:

2012 TAX DEED LIST BY YEAR OF LEVY
 DEED DATE: May 8, 2015

OWNER	PROPERTY ADDRESS	MAP LOT	2012 TAXES
ALONZO, TERESA A	621 FOURTH AVENUE	000110-000043.000000	\$ 1,287.70
BATCHELOR, NANCY	18 PEAVEY LANE	000128-000173.000000	\$ 2,287.75
BERLIN REAL ESTATE&DEV CORP-C/O CHRISTINE HOOD	377 BURGESS STREET	000130-000281.000000	\$ 3,729.60
BERLIN REAL ESTATE&DEV CORP C/O CHRISTINE HOOD	CHAMPLAIN STREET	000130-000343.000000	\$ 252.20
BINETTE, FRANCIS C	65 JERICHO ROAD	000107-000006.000000	\$ 255.48
BOCKMAN, SHIRLEY M	29 BEMIS STREET	000135-000064.000000	\$ 1,178.55
BORDETSKY, DAVID	426 BURGESS STREET	000130-000262.000000	\$ 2,768.29
CATMAN, ERIC S SR & WENDY L CATMAN	1655 MAIN STREET	000126-000151.000000	\$ 331.21
CROSLEY, PAMELA A & SHIRLEY I PAGE	167 WILLOW STREET	000120-000016.000000	\$ 2,337.09
DALOMBA, FERNANDO & FRANCISCO F DALOMBA	399 BURGESS STREET	000130-000285.000000	\$ 1,254.55
DEMERS, ALFRED J--ESTATE OF	650 SULLIVAN STREET	000129-000065.000000	\$ 2,599.60
DIMAURO REALTY INVESTMENT INC C/O CHRISTINE DIMAURO	339 GOEBEL STREET	000118-000183.000000	\$ 1,749.68
DIMAURO REALTY INVESTMENT INC C/O CHRISTINE DIMAURO	480 BURGESS STREET	000130-000255.000000	\$ 2,019.82
DOANE, PAUL	650 BLAIS STREET	000132-000062.000000	\$ 1,681.31
DOANE, PAUL W	79 MT. FORIST STREET	000118-000017.000000	\$ 2,602.05
DOOLEY, PAUL & CYNTHIA	29 ARLINGTON STREET	000137-000085.000L29	\$ 776.88
DUQUETTE, JOHN	17 -19 CAMBRIDGE ST.	000129-000025.000000	\$ 2,343.82
FENWICK, DONALD ALEC III	378 MADISON AVENUE	000120-000101.000000	\$ 2,353.55
FIVE SIXTY NINE MAIN ST REALTY	569 MAIN STREET	000129-000047.000000	\$ 3,383.20
FREEWAY INVESTMENTS, INC C/O AUBURN LOAN SERVICING	143 JERICHO ROAD	000105-000012.000000	\$ 3,132.72
GIROUX, BRENDA LEE	1764 HUTCHINS STREET	000135-000036.000000	\$ 2,170.70
HALLE, RICHARD	RIVERSIDE DRIVE	000138-000043.000000	\$ 178.86
HUOT, JO	153 CHURCH STREET	000120-000300.000000	\$ 688.01
L'HEUREUX, PETER E & KELLEY M	49 JASPER STREET	000120-000228.000000	\$ 2,869.14
LAMOUREUX, PAUL	WEST MILAN ROAD	000407-000015.000010	\$ 1,765.91
LAVOIE, ROBERT J-ESTATE OF - C/O PAULETTE GODIN	RAMSEY STREET	000127-000013.000000	\$ 462.07
LAVOIE, ROBERT J-ESTATE OF - C/O PAULETTE GODIN	FLINT STREET	000127-000014.000000	\$ 132.95
LAVOIE, ROBERT J-ESTATE OF - C/O PAULETTE GODIN	640 HILLSIDE AVENUE	000127-000015.000000	\$ 2,399.53
LEBEL, RENE A	851 WESTERN AVENUE	000118-000081.000000	\$ 134.79

MACDONALD, JAMES H	801 THIRD AVENUE	000119-000465.000000	\$ 1,833.74
MC CLAFFERTY, SANDRA	99 PINE ISLAND AVENUE	000125-000045.000000	\$ 4,366.37
OUELLETTE, HENRIE G	635 HILLSBORO STREET	000129-000122.000000	\$ 2,541.16
PATOM, LLC	385 CHURCH STREET	000120-000318.000000	\$ 1,123.46
PISANI, FELIX	1203 MAIN STREET	000127-000251.000000	\$ 395.21
PISANI, FELIX A	1193 MAIN STREET	000127-000250.000000	\$ 513.93
POULIN, RICHARD L	227 MAIN STREET	000119-000061.000000	\$ 10,678.85
ROUSSOPOULOS, ALEXANDER G & SUZANNA B	80 MAYNESBORO ST.	000135-000096.000000	\$ 2,411.61
SAVARD, PATRICIA A	253 BRIDGE STREET	000135-000170.000000	\$ 1,679.47
SHAW COMMUNICATIONS	CATES HILL ROAD	000406-000020.0000L8	\$ 1,646.08
VILLENEUVE, CECILE M - C/O ELAINE BOROWSKI	56 ICELAND STREET	000127-000182.000000	\$ 892.16
VILLENEUVE, ROGER - C/O SUSAN A VILLENEUVE	JERICO ROAD	000106-000013.000000	\$ 207.66
VILLENEUVE, ROGER - C/O SUSAN A VILLENEUVE	115 JERICO ROAD	000106-000014.000000	\$ 4,638.22
VILLENEUVE, ROGER -C/O SUSAN A VILLENEUVE	JERICO ROAD	000106-000015.000000	\$ 229.37
WELLSPRING CHRISTIAN CENTER	67 PERSHING AVENUE	000135-000196.000000	\$ 3,061.56

\$ 85,345.86

Potential Future Properties to be tax Deeded

KRONENWETTER, JAMES	373 CHAMPLAIN STREET
---------------------	----------------------

The Finance Director expects people come in by Friday to pay.

Councilor Rozek asked if the same people come in at the last minute to pay and if that cycle is over 50%. Patty replied it is more in the 26-28% range.

Councilor Remillard asked about the burned buildings on Jericho Road #41-43 if the insurance would go to pay taxes before giving owner the proceeds? Patty does not know but currently the taxes are still unpaid.

Mayor Grenier asked Patty to provide Council with a list of those properties that get repurchased by May 8 and Patty agreed to do so.

Job Vacancies.

- Finance Department. Senior Accounting Clerk position vacant due to a retirement as of August 1, 2015. Finance Director Patty Chase requests permission to fill this budget neutral position. Councilor Nelson moved with a second by Councilor Higbee to allow the Finance Director to fill that vacancy. So moved, the motion carried.

- Public Works Department. Foreman position vacant due to a retirement as of July 7, 2015. Public Works Director Michael Perreault requests permission to fill this budget neutral position. Councilor Nelson moved with a second by Councilor Rozek allow the Public Works Director to fill that vacancy. So moved, the motion carried.

Neighborhood Revitalization Update.

Housing Coordinator Linda White gave Council a packet containing detailed information on the status of the Berlin Neighborhood Revitalization Project. Updated – 5/4/2015.

April 23, 2014	CDBG Award letter from the Community Development Finance Authority
June 6, 2014	CDBG Signed Grant Agreement with CDFA
July 1, 2014	RFP - Ad in Berlin Daily Sun for HQS Inspector & BNRP Project Manager
July 2, 2014	RFP - Ad in Berlin Daily Sun for HQS Inspector & BNRP Project Manager
July 16, 2014	CDBG Grant Approval by Governor & Council
July 17, 2014	Proposals due for HQS Inspector. One proposal received for HQS Inspector from Dann Dodd, Inspection LLC.

July 17, 2014	Proposals due for BNRP Project Manager. One proposal received for Project Manager from Tri-County Community Action Program
September 5, 2014	Ad in Berlin Daily Sun for Public Meeting Dates
September 11, 2014	Public Meeting for the Berlin Neighborhood Revitalization Project
September 14, 2014	Public Meeting for the Berlin Neighborhood Revitalization Project
October 6, 2014	Contract executed for HQS (Housing Quality Standards) HUD Inspector with Dann Dodd, Inspection LLC.
October 7, 2014	RFQ -Request for Qualifications for Sub-trades.
October 15, 2014	Contract executed for BNRP Project Manager with TCCAP
October 16, 2014	Requested date of return – RFQ for Sub trades
November 14, 2014	HUD Home Inspections initiated by HQS Inspector, Dann Dodd.
January 11, 2015	All HQS Inspections completed on present waiting list
February, 2015	Project Manager Inspections with Sub trades begins and contracts initiated.
May 4, 2015	Contracts and work underway in first 6 Properties/ 9 Units. Projected # of units to complete under grant – 35.

Councilor Nelson asked Linda if the Project Manager has to report back to her about the subcontractors and do they have to put that it out to bid. Linda said it is not a requirement to go out to put each sub trade out to bid and they had that discussion with CDFA. Due to the nature of the specific items at times there are six or seven trades going on in each home at one time. They are working in multiple homes. To put out individual bids would be time intensive for each subtrade so CDFA gave us the option of putting out RFQ's.

Councilor Nelson asked if CAP has always been the project manager. Linda replied that in the first grant a general contractor was project manager but it failed. At that point no one was interested in doing it so they started discussions with CAP who felt they could do the project management because we as a City were not allowed to do it. CAP did it very well. The change is that at first CAP had some of their own subcontractors that they were using. Under this grant, the restrictions were tighter for that and that is the reason for putting out the RFQ. They are required to use local subcontractors and not their own. They do have some local in-house but not allowed to use their own.

Mayor Grenier asked what the CAP management fee is for this. According to Linda, CAP receives \$1800 per house. The Mayor would like to see that management piece put out to bid. Linda explained it was already done way back under the original RFP of the grant. She had a couple of local general contractors come talk to her and she encouraged them to bid but not one contractor put in a bid.

The Mayor said next time we need to rethink this whole thing. He is not opposed to the neighborhood revitalization but he thinks we should de-couple the City from their reliance on CAP on non-core essential programs. The City needs to support CAP in their core functions to secure federal funding but this project is not a core function of CAP.

Linda informed Council that she made an extensive effort to get contractors and subcontractors involved through direct email to get that info out and to make sure people were aware of the bid process. It was posted in the Manchester Union Leader and the local paper.

Councilor Rozek told Linda they were not questioning what she is doing. It's just not the response that they expected.

To that Linda remarked that the benefit of working with CAP is that at this point \$73,000 is allocated to program funds and CAP has a matching \$42,000 in weatherization. She would love to see more contractors in the mix but that did not happen. This is the most labor intensive project in the City and it there is extensive paperwork that needs to be filled out and that alone probably keeps people away.

Councilor Remillard inquired where the CAP money goes. The reply was that it ends up coming back to the City's citizens through weatherization.

Councilor Higbee added that the federal money CAP receives for weatherization is a small amount. This low income weatherization project keeps CAP folks working year round and there are sixteen people working in just weatherization.

It bothers Councilor Nelson that there doesn't need to be a bid process once it gets to them in order to make sure that it stays locally. She is uncomfortable with that piece of it.

Linda concluded it is not effective to put every handrail, etc. out to bid and that is why CDFA thought an RFQ was a good idea. She has witnessed the CAP project manager go down the list of all the contractors in a fair manner. This is a very difficult process to manage in a practical way.

Grant Update.

Health/Welfare Director Angela Martin-Giroux informed the Mayor and Council that out of 106 applicants, the City was awarded with the \$5,000 Harvard Pilgrim Healthy Food Fund Grant. This grant will allow expanded garden space in the community and can also be used for tools, seeds, equipment and garden support including a part time employee to teach community members about gardening. Angela concluded that since 5 of the 10 garden beds have been rented out, people are interested in this.

Zoning Ordinance Change for Main Street

Community Development Director Pam Laflamme explained that this change was brought about through the American Legion who wants to relocate to a Main Street address. Upon looking at the Zoning Ordinance for Main Street, there was no mention of a club or its membership permitted in the downtown business general zone. There is a list of uses in downtown like parking on Main Street and allowing community centers in downtown but it is not in the site plan. It is a use that blends well in downtown and she recommends amending the zoning ordinance to allow club members downtown.

Mayor Grenier is concerned with parking and loitering. The club's present facility doesn't allow loitering. He would like to see more "teeth" in the ordinance where members don't loiter outside.

Pam replied that the issues are with organization. The City could do site plan. A community center brings the exact same concerns usually aimed at teenagers or youth. She is not sure why this group is being segregated since there are already two active groups in the downtown.

According to Mayor Grenier, the surrounding merchants do have a right to complain. There are a couple of struggling retail businesses nearby and parking is a potential problem. If cars are there longer than two hours, then they would call the police. A stronger enforcement would be needed so it would be a burden on the Police Department as well.

Pam explained that the club would operate on different hours than the downtown merchants. They could have a laid out entire organizational plan not to have loitering on Main Street. If permitted, they would be sensitive to the concerns of the merchants. There are lots of positives to it like. This space is not in high demand in downtown so it makes sense.

Councilor Rozek suggested that this could be reviewed by the Traffic and Safety Committee as well.

Mayor Grenier cautioned that we don't want to do spot zoning for one group.

Pam suggested that perhaps it could get a second look by the ZBA who would take care of special exceptions, abutter notices and it would be an extra layer of review.

Mayor Grenier would rather not pass the buck to the Zoning Board but maybe the Planning Board should look at the Zoning Ordinance to make sure we have a process if there is conflict between merchants and the club and not a Police Department issue.

Councilor Nelson knows some people are lobbying for this. She doesn't think the American Legion rents out their hall like the Eagle's club so they won't have 100 cars parked on Main Street. She just does not want people hanging out to smoke.

Pam has met with four club members who emphasized they would not allow members to loiter on Main Street.

Mayor Grenier reconsidered that maybe going to the ZBA after all would not be a bad process. They could regulate parking and where to smoke.

Councilor Remillard does not want to make problems with the local merchants.

Mayor Grenier wants to be careful because once done, it is done. He is sensitive to the fact that we have two empty buildings in the downtown.

Councilor Otis would like to see this progress with no delays since both the landlords have done lots of homework and due diligence. They need to make a move asap due to finances. In order to keep membership up, they need handicap access since this is a veterans club and they need to provide that benefit to its members.

Mayor Grenier has made no decision yet. The Club needs to work together with the merchants to make it work.

Consultant Selection for CDBG Northern Lights Project

Community Development Director Pam Laflamme recommends Donna Lane as grant administrator for a lump sum fee of \$12,500.

Councilor Nelson moved with a second by Councilor Higbee to accept the communication. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Rozek was wondering if the Mayor and Council could work with Gorham Town Officials in a joint effort to generate a letter to the State in support of keeping the DMV Office here where it is needed. The Mayor asked City Manager Wheeler to draft a letter to send to Senators Morris and Woodburn.

There being no further business before the Mayor and Council at this time, Mayor Grenier declared the Work Session adjourned at approximately 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra A. Patrick, CMC
City Clerk

PUBLIC HEARING – MAY 4, 2015

Mayor Grenier opened the duly advertised public hearing at approximately 7:40 p.m. to discuss the following subject matters:

- Ordinance 2015-07 Clarifying OHRV Trail Closure – No Comments
- Resolution 2015-12 Accept \$20,000 from Cate Street Capital for Field Improv. – No Comments
- Resolution 2015-13 Sale of 7 Acres of Airport Property to Robert Chapman – No Comments
- Resolution 2015-14 Reducing the Speed Limit on Cates Hill – No Comments

There being no one wishing to speak for or against the subject matters at this time, Mayor Grenier declared the Public Hearing portion of the Meeting closed at approximately 7:42 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – Monday, May 4, 2015

Mayor Grenier called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at approximately 7:43 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers. The pledge of allegiance to the flag preceded roll call. Present: Councilors Remillard, Otis, Morgan Allain, Gentili, Higbee, Rozek, Nelson and Theberge. Also present: City Manager James Wheeler, Pam Laflamme and Barbara Tetreault and Chris Crooker.

Minutes, Previous Meeting

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to accept the minutes of the April 20 Regular Meeting/Work Session, April 27 Work Session. So moved, the motion carried.

Disbursements: Disbursement Summary Draft #1739 start date 4/21/2015 end date 5/04/2015 for a total cash disbursement of \$1,073,040.67. Councilor Theberge moved with a second by Councilor Nelson to accept the disbursement summary and pay all bills as recommended by the Committee on Accounts/Claims. So moved, the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – No Comments

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Council Committee Reports – No Reports.
2. Ordinance 2015-07 Amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 13, Streets, Article IV. Parks and Recreation, Division 2, Operation of Off Highway Recreational Vehicles, Sec. 13-112. Operation of OHRV's (tabled 4/20/15) Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Berlin, as follows:

That Sec. 13-112 Operation of OHRV's is amended as indicated below:

1. (c) The Berlin OHRV Connector Trail and the City of Berlin's roadways will be closed to OHRV riders when the Bureau of Trails declares that the snow machine trails are no longer useable. The connector trail will re-open on May 23, or a reopen date set by the State Trails Bureau. Berlin's roadways will reopen accordingly. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after passage.

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to remove the ordinance from the table at this time. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to have the ordinance read a second time by title only. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to have the ordinance read a third time by title only. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to pass the ordinance at this time. So moved, the motion carried and Mayor Grenier declared the ordinance now passed.

3. Resolution 2015-12 Accepting a donation of \$20,000.00 (Twenty Thousand Dollars) for field improvements at Community Field from Burgess BioPower (tabled 4/20/15)

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Berlin as Follows:

Whereas, Burgess BioPower is generously offering to fund field improvements for the upcoming baseball/softball season; and

Whereas, the project will be completed with equipment and labor from Water Works and the Recreation Department; and

Whereas, Burgess BioPower will donate their time and hold work days with their staff at Community Field to help with the project improvements and future maintenance of the field; and

Whereas, funding will pay for the needed improvements at Community Field as determined by the Recreation Department staff. Now therefore be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Berlin, NH, that \$20,000 is accepted from Burgess BioPower for field improvements. Be it further resolved that said funds shall be appropriated for the purpose of the grant. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after passage.

Councilor Nelson moved with a second by Councilor Morgan Allain to remove the resolution from the table at this time. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Nelson moved with a second by Councilor Morgan Allain to have the resolution read a second time by title only. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Nelson moved with a second by Councilor Morgan Allain to have the resolution read a third time by title only. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Nelson moved with a second by Councilor Morgan Allain to pass the resolution at this time. So moved, the motion carried and Mayor Grenier declared the resolution now passed.

4. Resolution 2015-13 Authorizing the Berlin Airport Authority (BAA) to sell a certain parcel of Berlin Airport Authority land for the appraised value of \$35,000.00 to Robert Chapman, Sr (tabled 4/20/15)

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Berlin as Follows:

Whereas, the Berlin Airport Authority was approached by Robert Chapman, Sr. to sell a seven acre parcel of land as described below:

A certain parcel of land in the town of Milan, Coos County, New Hampshire located on the westerly side of East Side River Road. Meaning and intending to describe a parcel of land containing approximately 7.0 acres as shown on York Land Services plan No. 10-099A titled "Minor Boundary Line Adjustment Between properties of Berlin Airport Authority, Tax Map 44, Parcel 129 and Robert A. Chapman, Sr. Tax Map 46, Parcel 46, East Side River Road, Milan, New Hampshire" dated April 28, 2014.

Whereas, the Berlin Airport Authority, the State of NH Department of Aeronautics and the Federal Aviation Administration have found that these parcels have no value to airport operations. Now therefore, be it resolved that the Berlin Airport Authority is hereby authorized to sell a seven acre parcel of land as described above for the appraised value of Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000.00) and be it further resolved that the City Manager is hereby authorized to do all things necessary to effectuate the sale and sign the deed on behalf of the Berlin Airport Authority. Be it further resolved the proceeds from the sale shall be deposited to a Berlin Airport Authority Revenue account. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after passage.

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to remove the resolution from the table at this time. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to have the resolution read a second time by title only. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to have the resolution read a third time by title only. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to pass the resolution at this time. So moved, the motion carried and Mayor Grenier declared the resolution now passed.

5. Resolution 2015-14 Amending the City of Berlin's speed limit map, pursuant to the City of Berlin's Code of Ordinances Sec. 15-41 (tabled 4/20/15)

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Berlin as Follows:

Whereas the City has authority over speed limits within its boundaries; and

Whereas, Cates Hill would be excluded from the City's open roadways for OHRV riders due to its 35 mile per hour speed limit; and

Whereas, the condition of the roadway on Cates Hill merits a lower speed limit; and

Whereas, pursuant to the City of Berlin's Code of Ordinances Sec. 15-41 the City of Berlin Official Speed Limit Map is amended by resolution. Now therefore, be it resolved that the City Council of the City of Berlin hereby amends the City of Berlin's Official Speed Limit Map, pursuant to the City of Berlin's Code of Ordinances Sec. 15-41, by lowering the speed limit of Cates Hill from 35 miles per hour to 30 miles per hour. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after passage

Councilor Theberge moved with a second by Councilor Nelson to remove the resolution from the table at this time. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Theberge moved with a second by Councilor Morgan Allain to have the resolution read a second time by title only. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Theberge moved with a second by Councilor Higbee to have the resolution read a third time by title only. So moved, the motion carried.

Councilor Theberge moved with a second by Councilor Higbee to pass the resolution at this time. So moved, the motion carried and Mayor Grenier declared the resolution now passed.

Councilor Gentili wants to make sure we keep the road repaired even though the speed limit is now reduced.

NEW BUSINESS

6. Ordinance 2015-08 Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Berlin, Chapter 17, ZONING, ARTICLE IV, Establishment of Zoning Districts, Section 17-41, Zoning Districts (1st read)

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to table the ordinance and schedule a public hearing on May 18. So moved, the motion carried.

7. Communication from Community Bible Academy to Close Sullivan Street for Bike-a-Thon

Pastor Jon Howry requests permission to close Sullivan Street from Grafton Street to the parking entrance of the Service Federal Credit Union on May 16, 2015 to conduct their annual Bike-a-Thon and Yard Sale. Pastor Howry will coordinate with the Credit Union and families living on that street and will put up a double barricade on both sides of the block to ensure everyone's safety.

Councilor Remillard moved with a second by Councilor Otis to accept the communication and grant the Community Bible Academy permission to proceed as stated. So moved, the motion carried.

8. City Manager's Report

1. On May 13, 14 and 15, the new vehicle exhaust system will be installed at the Fire Station.
2. On May 14, the Fair Housing Training will be held at City Hall.
3. The second meeting of the Berlin Hazard Mitigation Planning group took place on April 22nd at the White Mountains Community College. The next meeting is scheduled for May 6th at the same time and place.
4. The FY15-16 heating oil contract for the City is out for bid with a May 12 return date. We will add the final contract price to the budget and we are hoping for a downward adjustment.
5. The City has received its final health insurance renewals for the FY16 period. The Health Trust renewal which essentially covers City Hall Employees and Police will be 2.4%. The NH Interlocal Trust renewal which essentially covers all others will be 1.52%. The Interlocal Trust renewal may be further reduced pending review of an optional Retiree Rx plan currently under review.

6. The Welfare Dept. has been notified by the Family Dollar Corporation that they will no longer accept Welfare vouchers as of April 30, 2015. The Welfare Dept. provided vouchers, per State law, for necessity items such as soap and shampoo. If we continue to issue vouchers for other businesses our costs will go up. Alternatively we have decided to stock necessity items in the Welfare Dept. These items will be provided in lieu of a voucher. The Welfare Dept. believes this new process will reduce internal work, control costs and control the type of product received in the program.
7. On Monday April 27th at 10 AM a traffic control meeting was held at the BWW office for the resumption of Phase II Rte. 110 work. Representatives from Rt. 110 businesses were participated in the meeting. In summary, while work proceeds between 5th and 6th avenues a detour will be maintained around the work. Business specific signage has been placed to let travelers know that businesses are opened. This work is expected to take 4 to 6 weeks. When work gets beyond 6th Avenue, one lane of traffic will have to be maintained as there are no detour routes available.
8. On April 30th Pam Laflamme and I met with Paul Montney of Georgia-Pacific and Darryl Luce, PhD of the EPA regarding the Chlor-Alkali Superfund Site. As an entity in the chain of title Georgia-Pacific has been identified by EPA as having some liability for clean-up of the site. When project conditions allow for it Georgia-Pacific likes to take a proactive/collaborative approach to clean-up responsibilities. Rather than fight a legal battle denying responsibility, they attempt to work with EPA and stakeholders on the clean-up solution for the site. Mr. Montney was here last week to begin looking at such an approach on the Chlor-Alkali site. EPA expects that there will be a public meeting regarding clean-up plans later this summer.
9. On Tuesday May 5th City Department Heads will conduct their staff meeting at the Berlin Wastewater Treatment Plant. Henry Noel will provide a tour of the newly upgraded facility.

Mayor Grenier asked about the heating oil contract and if we have wiggle room in the budget in case we need to go back out for bids in July or August. The City Manager confirmed we are ok.

Councilor Rozek regarding item #7 Rte 110 construction asked if it is going better or is it too early to tell. Other issue is last week he asked the City Manager to contact the DOT about repairing the sites on Cates Hill like the repairs they did along the road to Errol. The City Manager replied he knew what Councilor Rozek meant about the repair work and plans to contact the DOT soon.

Councilor Theberge asked when The Hutchins Street work will begin. The City Manager said it is slated to begin late July and the project will take 8-10 weeks to complete.

Councilor Rozek moved with a second by Councilor Higbee to accept the City Manager's Report and place it on file. So moved, the motion carried.

9. Mayor's Report

-Appointment: Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Mayor Grenier nominated Richard Tremaine for a three year term set to expire June 2018.

Councilor Theberge moved with a second by Councilor Rozek to accept/file the Mayor's nomination to the ZBA as stated. So moved, the motion carried.

10. Public Comments – No Comments

11. Council Comments – No Comments

12. Adjournment: There being no further business before the Mayor and Council, Councilor Rozek moved with a second by Councilor Higbee to adjourn the regular meeting. So moved, the motion carried and Mayor Grenier declared the regular meeting closed at approximately 8:10 p.m.

A True Record, Attest:
Debra A. Patrick, CMC
City Clerk